

ICC Government Relations' Monthly Update



May 2022

It's Building Safety Month!

“SAFETY FOR ALL” : Share the video, post proclamations, take pics and use the hashtag

Your imagination and all the [tools we have to share for your Building Safety Month events](#) can turn the 2022 Building Safety Month into the most successful among Code Council members and our stake holders. For starters, [share this video](#) and this [video with some familiar faces](#) for this month's celebration with its theme **“Safety for All: Building Codes in Action.”** [Here's the link to obtaining a copy](#) of the 2022 Building Safety Month official proclamations which you can copy, paste and edit for signatures by Mayors, City Councils, Governors, state agencies, fire departments and other local agencies and organizations involved with building safety. When signed, you can upload a copy of the completed proclamation to be posted on the 2022 Building Safety Month website, and you can also review proclamations signed and posted from throughout the nation and other nations. [Just follow the easy instructions!](#) Use the 2022 BSM website to download [promotional materials](#), [access resources](#) and [check back frequently](#) for updates. The Code Council also [offers this guide to you and your Chapter](#) using social media promote Building Safety Month 2022. Have fun! To promote your Building Safety Month events on social media, don't forget to use the hashtag **#BuildingSafety365**. And take a minute to [check out the Kid's Corner](#) for fun activities and handouts!

SPEAKING OF BUILDING SAFETY MONTH VIDEOS: The Sustainability Membership Council (SMC) is famous for its [series of Building Safety Month videos](#) at its Facebook account. If you access Facebook, check out this first [video on the Austin Energy Green Building program](#), produced by the SMC.

ONE MORE THING ABOUT THOSE PROCLAMATIONS! Jurisdictions and organizations are signing and issuing their proclamations declaring May 2022 as Building Safety Month. Among them is the United States President's Administration [who has once again issued a proclamation](#) in support of raising awareness of building safety: “This year's National Building Safety Month theme — “Safety for All: Codes in Action” — is an important reminder that modern building code adoption and enforcement is essential to keeping our homes, businesses, schools, and other facilities safe.” View the various national, state and local proclamations or submit your own [here](#).

Hotel room block deadline is May 16 for the June 13-15 Chapter Leader Academy in Colorado

The 6th Annual [Chapter Leadership Academy](#) on June 13-15 is becoming a popular destination for Code Council chapter leaders and future leaders. They need to register their hotel room by May 16 to enjoy the ICC room block in the [Renaissance Boulder Flatiron Hotel](#) at Broomfield, Colorado. Monday, June 13, is a travel day and registration packets will be provided that evening as well as reimbursement information and details for the training sessions. Training will be all day Tuesday, June 14, and until noon Wednesday, June 15. Technical sessions will be hosted by [Viega](#) at its nearby state-of-the-art facility.

Application site for applying for Code of Honor Scholarships to participate in Louisville hearing is open

If you are an ICC Governmental Member Voting Representative, don't miss your chance to apply for a Code of Honor Scholarship to support your attendance at the Code Council's Public Comment Hearings being held Sept. 14–21, 2022, in Louisville, Kentucky. The scholarships help ensure that the International Codes reflect the consensus view of officials at all levels of government by providing funding to Governmental Member Voting Representatives seeking to attend and participate in the Public Comment Hearings. The application site is now open and will close on Thursday, June 30, 2022. [Read more here](#).

Code Council's 2021 Annual Report reviews the past year's challenges, efforts and successes

ICC's 2021 Annual Report was recently issued and highlights the Code Council's renewed sense of resiliency to provide resources and support to members/customers serving their communities around

the world. “The International Code Council entered 2021 with a renewed sense of resilience. While the year delivered its share of challenges, the things we faced this year underscored the importance of building safety professionals and the role they play in preserving our safety,” a cover statement from ICC Board President Cindy Davis and Code Council CEO Dominic Sims said. “Our 2021 annual report reminds us of all we can accomplish when we work together.” [Read more on the 2021 Annual Report here.](#)

ICC Government Relations staff engaging members and stake holders on membership benefits

The Government Relations staff is working to inform building safety professionals who are not yet members of several important membership benefits and to make sure that current ICC members are taking full advantage of the benefits membership affords. Benefits include:

- A FREE Digital Codes Premium subscription (based on member category).
- 10-25% off code content, specialized publications and training materials.
- Discounts on training and educational programs to earn CEUs.
- Discounts on certification exams, exam resource materials and certification renewals.
- Digital badging to showcase membership on social media and your resume.
- Technical support to answer code-related questions (based on membership category).

Russ Manning selected to succeed ICC’s top technical services head Mike Pfeiffer who retires in 2023

Russ Manning, former executive director of facility operations and maintenance for the National Facility Services of the Kaiser Permanente Health System, joined the codes and standards department of the International Code Council as deputy senior vice president of technical services. Dr. Manning will succeed Mike Pfeiffer, Senior Vice President of Technical Services, Mike Pfeiffer, PE. Pfeiffer recently announced his plan to retire in 2023 after serving the Code Council for 36 years. The Code Council’s Technical Services team makes the process of understanding and applying the codes efficient and straightforward by offering code commentaries and code interpretations. “Technical Services is thrilled to welcome Russ to the team. He has a passionate support for building safety and, from his unique perspective and background, has a lot to offer to the Code Council,” Pfeiffer said. “Russ will be assisting me as we transition him to lead the department upon my retirement in 2023.” [Read more here.](#)

Code Council to donate portion of proceeds from ICC/ANSI A117.1 sales to Canine Companions

Code Council has committed to donating a portion of the proceeds from sales of its ICC/ANSI A117.1 standard for accessibility to Canine Companions, a non-profit organization that trains and donates service dogs to people with disabilities. The two organizations signed an agreement during a brief ceremony on April 24, 2022, at Chicago’s Navy Pier. The agreement will be used as a starting point for the Code Council and Canine Companions to work together to raise awareness around accessibility in the built environment. “We are delighted to have the Code Council’s support in placing more service and facility dogs with people who need them,” said Matt Levering, Senior Development Director for Canine Companions, “Given its focus on safety and accessibility, our partnership with the Code Council is a natural fit.” [Read more here.](#)

Government Relations Department posts opening for Vice President of Technical Services position

The Code Council Government Relations Department is seeking applications for Vice President of Technical Services. This position is responsible for developing, coordinating, directing and implementing programs to ensure the successful completion of the goals and objectives of the GR Department on behalf of ICC and its business units under the ICC Family of Solutions (FoS) by providing technical analysis, support, and thought leadership on ICC FoS products and services. This critical position is charged with helping bridge the gap between technical and advocacy. Referrals welcome. [Read more here.](#)

Code Council applauds passage of the Resilient AMERICA Act to boost FEMA funds for resilient codes

The Resilient AMERICA Act, recently passed by the U.S. House of Representatives, more than doubles the allowable funding calculation under the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities \(BRIC\) program](#) from the current 6% to 15%, which allows for additional projects and activities to be funded. With these additional resources, the legislation also recognizes the significant return on investment provided to communities by adopting, implementing,

and enforcing up-to-date hazard-resistant, consensus-based codes and standards. *Resilient AMERICA* requires that each annual BRIC grant cycle invests at least ten percent in code-focused grant awards. The Code Council, which has supported this legislation since its introduction, recently joined over 25 emergency management, non-profit, and industry members in a [letter](#) to House leadership urging its swift consideration and passage more than a month ago. The Resilient AMERICA Act follows the passing of the *Disaster Recovery and Reform Act* (DRRA) in 2018 which, for the first time ever, provided a dedicated stream of annual funding for FEMA's pre-disaster mitigation efforts and permitted these resources to assist state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments in adopting and implementing hazard-resistant building codes. After running two BRIC grant cycles, the pent-up demand at SLTT levels of government for federal assistance for disaster mitigation was apparent, creating an urgent need for the additional resources provided through the Resilient AMERICA Act. [Read more here.](#)

FEMA issues agency-wide strategy to lead U.S. toward improved resilience through current codes

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released a new [building codes strategy](#), defining the goals and objectives it will pursue to promote the application, adoption and enforcement of hazard-resistant building codes across the nation. This first-of-its kind strategy focuses on three core goals:

- Integrating building codes and standards across FEMA
- Strengthening nationwide capacity for superior building performance
- Driving public action on building codes

The goals will drive coordination and prioritize the agency's activities to advance the adoption and enforcement of hazard-resistant building codes and standards for FEMA programs and communities nationwide. FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell announced the strategy at this year's National Hurricane Conference, where she described hazard-resistant codes as "a cornerstone of loss reduction," that "save property, but more importantly, they save lives." [Read more here.](#)

Research of tornado risks leads to better building codes that don't significantly increase building costs

A Building Safety Journal piece by Maryland's Paul Lagasse, who specializes in the trades, technology and science, examines the research that goes into the updating of construction codes to provide greater protections of life and property at minimal costs. [Read more here.](#)

Code Council completes first technical review of SolarAPP+ software for alignment with the I-Codes

The International Code Council finds that the Solar Automated Permit Processing Platform (SolarAPP+) aligns with the [2018 International Building Code \(IBC\)](#) and the [2018 International Residential Code \(IRC\)](#) for one and two-family residential dwelling rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) and solar PV connected battery and storage systems. This determination comes as part of the Code Council's continued collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to improve the utility of SolarAPP+ for local governments that use the model codes developed by the Code Council. "NREL and the SolarAPP+ coalition are immensely grateful for the Code Council's commitment to our mission of delivering more efficient online solar and solar and storage permitting," said Jeff Cook SolarAPP+ Program Lead, NREL. "This announcement is exciting, though not unexpected, given we have been collaborating with the Code Council on SolarAPP+ since its inception." [Read more here.](#)

The U.S. Department of Defense announces new property maintenance standards for military housing

The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) announced its use of a uniform code of basic housing standards to regulate safety, comfort and habitability of DoD government-owned family housing built on the International Code Council's International Property Maintenance Code. The announcement follows the approval of the 2020 and 2021 National Defense Authorization Act, which collectively require the DoD to establish and implement a unified code based on a consensus-based, model property maintenance code for privatized military housing, government-owned and government-controlled housing located inside or outside the United States. [Read more here.](#)

DOE releases energy-saving requirements for federal buildings and new standards for appliances

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the release of [new energy efficiency requirements for federal buildings](#) that will take effect in 2023. Along with these requirements, the DOE also proposed new standards for residential room air conditioners and pool heaters to help consumers save on utility

bills. The new codes and standards are estimated to potentially save more than \$15 billion in net costs over the next 30 years and allows the federal government to lead by example in energy efficiency. In April of 2023, all new federal buildings, and major retrofits to existing federal buildings, must comply with the International Code Council's 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and the 2019 ASHRAE Standard 90.1. According to the DOE, implementation of the IECC and ASHRAE Standard 90.1 will save \$4.2 million dollars in operating costs within the first year. [Read more here.](#)

REGISTER NOW: Free webinar on performance-based structural fire design is scheduled for May 10

The International Code Council will join the Society of Fire Protection Engineers and the Charles Pankow Foundation on Tuesday, May 10, to host a free webinar on expanding the implementation and adoption of performance-based structural fire design. This webinar will provide an overview for individuals who are involved with the design, construction or regulatory approvals of buildings. [Read more here.](#)

ICC IAS' Building Department Recognition program spotlights Palm Bay building department

The [Building Department of the city of Palm Bay, Florida](#), is the first in the United States to be recognized in the [Building Department Recognition program](#) by the [International Accreditation Service](#) (IAS). IAS is an independent, non-profit accreditation body that has been providing accreditation services since 1975. The IAS recognition is for building and code enforcement departments, as well as third-party companies who have demonstrated a commitment to service, safety and continuous improvement. Building departments are assessed for permitting, plan review, inspection and property maintenance code enforcement services. Departments that can demonstrate that they meet the requirements are awarded the IAS Building Department Recognition Certificate that provides evidence the department is operating at an elevated level of efficiency and technical quality. [Read more here.](#)

GOT PULSE? Update to the 2021 International Residential Code on under-slab vapor barriers

In [Episode 46](#), [Steve Jones](#), Code Council Lead Senior Government Relations Regional Manager, talks with [Dario Lamberti](#), General Manager of the Engineered Films Division at ISI Building Products on a recent update to the 2021 International Residential Code on under-slab vapor retarders. They go in-depth on the significance of this code update; the manufacturing, installation and selection of high-performance vapor barriers; and the overall importance of engaging in the code development process.



ICC Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas updates

Code Council's PMG team organizing a free comprehensive webinar May 24 on 'Backflow Basics'

The Code Council's PMG team is organizing a roundtable discussion and Q&A webinar 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern on May 24 titled "**Backflow Basics: Repair, Testing and Maintenance.**" The webinar is part of a series of webinars during 2022 Building Safety Month and will highlight repair, testing, maintenance and inspections methods and assemblies used to protect potable water. The Building Safety Month webinar series is designed to focus on a specific theme that is critical to building safety including "Exploring Careers in Building Safety" (week two), "Understanding the Four Phases of Emergency Management" (week three) and "Creating a Safe and Abundant Water Supply" (week four). Throughout the month-long campaign, a series of free virtual events will take place including:

- **Building Your Future: Career Paths for Military Veterans**, May 10, 2-3 pm ET: This webinar will uncover the challenges, opportunities and resources available for military veterans considering a career in building safety.
- **Facebook Live**, May 10, 1 pm ET: The Facebook Live event will feature Matthew Winn, the Code Council's Senior Vice President of Training and Education, exploring careers in building safety and the importance of training and education for building safety professionals.
- **Pool Owner Safety 101**, May 25, 2-3 pm ET: This webinar, co-sponsored by the Code Council and the Pool & Hot Tub Alliance, is a must for new pool owners or those considering a swimming pool to ensure that pools are both safe and enjoyable for many years to come.

[Register for these events](#) and more on the Building Safety Month events page. This year's Building Safety Month Foundational Sponsor is the [American Gas Association](#). Week one sponsors include the [National Multifamily Housing Council](#), [American Concrete Institute](#) and the [Gypsum Association](#). To see the full list of sponsors, click [here](#).



ICC Evaluation Services updates

Code Council's Evaluation Services welcomes Craig Morr as vice president of quality systems

The ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) welcomed Craig Morr as its new vice president of quality systems. With an extensive background in operations, quality and compliance, Morr has served on several boards and committees, including the International Accreditation Service and the American National Standards Institute. He brings his expertise in conformity assessment standards, quality management systems, lean process management as well as regulatory and accreditation processes. [Read more here.](#)

ICC-ES issues first supplement to Oregon Building Code for tension-controlled open web steel joists

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) has issued the first supplement to the 2019 Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC), highlighting the growing need for proof of code compliance to local building codes. Open web steel joists with wood nailers attached are commonly used in the West Coast region, including Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, and Arizona. Oregon is a very important market segment for this particular structural product. [New Millennium's](#) WN-Series Joist is an open web steel joist with a continuous wood nailer screw attached to the joist top chord. [Read more here.](#)

ICC-ES Broadcast Report: Light gauge metal framing system for a cleaner, faster and stronger build

The ICC-ES Broadcast Report is an exclusive service to inform ICC Members about new or revised product evaluation reports or listings. [Storage Structures](#) is a dedicated nationwide team of experts who design, procure, and install metal building components for single, bi-level, and multi-story buildings for self-storage and residential applications. As the exclusive provider of the patented Alpha Framing System, Storage Structures delivers an exceptional quality product. The [Alpha Framing System](#) is a light gauge metal framing system consisting of pre-assembled factory cold-formed steel Alpha Beams and T62 Columns combined with composite decking and field installed concrete resulting in a formidable primary framing structure. The Alpha Framing System was evaluated on its structural properties to support gravity loads with reports of load testing and data analysis in accordance with AISI S100. The full evaluation report, including California Building Code (CBC) and Los Angeles Building Code (LABC) supplements, is available here: [ESR-4894](#). For more information on the Alpha Framing System, call 877-456-1602 or email info@storagestructuresinc.com.



Upcoming from the Learning Center: Institutes, training, webinars, etc.

Online learning is available from the [ICC Learning Center](#). Find course [listings you'd like to attend](#) in the ICC Learning Center using the Search function. Some seminars offering a Virtual Classroom option so you can participate in the event from any location with an internet connection:

- **May 3 - [Mass Timber Webinar Series: 2021 IBC Mass Timber – R & D.](#)**
- **May 4 - [Code Enforcement Webinar: Mold Issues.](#)**
- **May 6 - [Complaint Management from Start to Finish.](#)**
- **May 10-12 - [2018 Building Plans Examiner Certification Test Academy.](#)**
- **May 10 - [Millennials in Code Enforcement.](#)**
- **May 16-20 - [2018 Commercial Building Inspector Certification Test Academy.](#)**
- **May 17 - [Report Writing for the Code Official.](#)**
- **May 17 - Mass Timber Webinar Series: [2021 IBC Tall Mass Timber Construction Fire Safety.](#)**
- **May 18-20 - [2018 Permit Technician Certification Test Academy.](#)**
- **May 18 - [Inspector Skills.](#)**
- **May 24 - [2021 IBC Significant Changes.](#)**
- **May 24 - Mass Timber Webinar Series: [2021 IBC/IFC Tall Mass Timber Construction Shake and Bake.](#)**
- **June 2 - [Basic Code Enforcement.](#)**
- **June 3 - [Officer Safety Procedures: Hazmat, Hoarding & Joint Enforcement Safety.](#)**
- **June 6 - 2021 Commercial Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Building Planning.](#)**
- **June 7 - [2018 Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector Certification Test Academy.](#)**

- June 13 - 2021 Commercial Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Footings and Foundations](#)
- June 14-16 - [2018 Fire Inspector I Certification Test Academy](#).
- June 20 - 2021 Commercial Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Wall Construction](#).
- June 27 - 2021 Commercial Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Public Safety and Special Construction Part I](#).
- July 6 - 2021 Commercial Building Inspector Webinar Series: [Public Safety and Special Construction Part II](#).

